IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, please amend the first paragraph as follows:

~~Description~~

FILTER AND BLOWER UNIT FOR BREATHING MASKS OR BONNETS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Page 1, please amend the second paragraph as follows:

Field of the Invention

This invention relates to a filter and blower unit for breathing masks or bonnets with a breathing air filter that is driven by a direct current motor and designed for use in potentially explosive areas.

Page 1, please amend the third paragraph as follows:

Background Art

Breathing masks or bonnets supplied with air via a breathing air filter are commonly equipped with a filter and blower unit driven by a direct current motor to increase breathing comfort, that is, to make breathing through the filter material easier and facilitate long-term assignments of the wearer as well as the use of specific filter types.

Page 2, please amend the second full paragraph as follows:

Summary of the Invention

It is ~~the problem~~ an object of the invention to develop a filter and blower for a filter and blower unit to be used in zone "0" potentially explosive atmospheres that is intrinsically

safe, can be operated at high performance, and manufactured at comparatively low cost.

Page 2, please delete the third full paragraph as follows:

~~This problem is solved according to the invention by the filter and blower comprising the characteristics described in claim 1. The dependent claims disclose further characteristics and advantageous improvements of the invention.~~

Page 3, please amend the first full paragraph as follows:

A filter and blower unit designed in this way is intrinsically safe as regards power supply, power input, and motor operation despite the fact that its high output is above the criteria of intrinsic safety; it is potentially of simple design ~~and can~~ to be manufactured easily and at low cost, it is potentially more light weight than filter and blower units designed according to the "d" type of protection and can be used in a zone "0" potentially explosive atmosphere that has the highest safety requirements.

Page 3, please amend the second full paragraph as follows:

Brief Description of the Drawings

An embodiment of the invention is explained in greater detail below with reference to the figures. Wherein:

Fig. 1 shows a lateral view of a filter and blower unit with power supply, a partially sectional view and exploded diagrammatic view, ~~and~~

Fig. 2 shows a top view of the stator and the power supply of the direct current motor for the filter and blower unit; and

Fig. 3 schematically shows a breathing mask/bonnet with the filter and blower unit in Figs. 1 and 2 operatively associated therewith.

Please amend the paragraph spanning pages 3 and 4 as follows:

Detailed Description of the Drawings

The filter and blower unit 100 is designed [[as]] with an external rotor motor in which the armature is a fixed stator coil module 1 that is fixedly mounted on a stator circuit board 2. The stator coil module 1 includes coil cores 4 with a coil 5 would onto each of them that are arranged concentrically around a bearing shell 3. The components, electric leads and terminals of the stator coil module 1 and the stator circuit board 2 are embedded in a non-conductive casting compound 6. Via electric connecting lines 7, the stator circuit board 2 is connected to a motor control module 8 and a voltage converter module 9 whose circuit bards 8a, 9a are also embedded in a casting compound. The stator coil module 1 and the motor control and voltage converter modules 8, 9 are mounted on a base circuit board 10 on which the connecting lines 7 are also embedded in a non-conductive casting compound the stator coil module 1 is encompassed on its periphery by a magnetic rotor 12 in a pot-type case 11 to generate a magnetic field, said rotor being rotatably mounted around the stator coil module 1 using a shaft 13 centered in the pot-type case 11 and supported by the bearing shell 3. Blades 14 are attached to the outer perimeter of the pot-type case 11 that can be rotated around the stator coil module 1.

Please amend the first paragraph on page 5 as follows:

In the embodiment described above, the motor of the filter and blower unit is considered intrinsically safe in all its parts - from power input to operation - and can be used in potentially explosive areas such as zone "0" potentially explosive atmospheres where there is a lasting or frequent explosion hazard. In addition, the blower unit ~~is of~~ lends itself to a simple and lightweight design ~~and lightweight~~.

Please add a new paragraph on page 5 as follows:

As shown in Fig. 3, the filter and blower unit 100 is operatively associated with a breathing mask/bonnet 200. The precise construction of the breathing mask/bonnet 200 is not critical to the present invention. Those skilled in this art are familiar with numerous constructions currently available as well as structure through which the filter and blower unit 100 can be operatively associated therewith to assist the breathing of a user.

Please amend the List of Reference Symbols on page 1 as follows:

[[1]] 6

List of reference symbols

1	Stator coil module
2	Stator circuit board
3	Bearing shell
4	Coil core
5	Coil

6	Casting compound
7	Electric connecting lines
8	Motor control module
8a	Circuit board of 8
9	Voltage converter module
9a	Circuit board of 9
10	Base circuit board
11	Pot-type case
12	Magnetic rotor
13	Shaft
14	Blades
15	Power source (accumulator or battery pack)
100	Filter and blower unit
200	Breathing mask/bonnet